

## JAMES ROBB.

The following brief biography of the banker, James Robb, Esq., formerly of this place, will, we doubt not, be read with interest in this section. It was brought out in the Louisville Courier accompanying the following account of the mammoth palace by his name:

**STEAMER JAMES ROBB.**—For New Orleans. This magnificent floating palace arrived from Cincinnati yesterday morning, and was visited during the day by hundreds and hundreds of our citizens, who admired her very much. The cabins are now and rich and beautiful and well furnished throughout. Her main cabin, which has accommodations for 120 passengers, is 204 feet long, finished with white and gold, and with a ceiling of panels and pendants, all in the English Gothic style. Immediately below the ladies' cabin, on the floor above the main deck, is a nursery, an addition that will be highly appreciated by persons travelling with children. It is arranged with separate rooms connected with the ladies' cabin by spiral stairways and has a large and safe promenade attached.

The James Robb is nearly 300 feet in length, and 1200 tons burden. She had about 1000 tons of freight on her yesterday, and the guards were clear of the water. She has an excellent pilot, and a good application of power with two large engines, and will be able to make regular semi-monthly trips between this city and New Orleans.

The James Robb starts to New Orleans to-day, and from the indications to know she will be full of passengers. One new and most admirable feature in the arrangement of the cabins, &c., of this packet, is the absence of stairs. She is heated by pipes that conduct hot water to heaters arranged under the floors, and the cabins are always kept comfortable and at a healthy temperature.

Mr. Robb is a native of Western Virginia, and commenced his career as Cashier of a branch of the Virginia Bank at Morgantown. Under ill-health he resigned his office, and to obtain a wider field and more genial climate, removed to New Orleans.

Established in the exchange and banking business at New Orleans, just at that crisis in the monetary and commercial affairs which occurred in 1838, involving banks, bankers, merchants, and planters, everything in ruin and embarrassment, Mr. Robb's energy, skill and prudence, combined with integrity and boldness, soon led him to wealth and distinction.

The New Orleans Gas and Banking Company, redeemed from a condition of almost hopeless bankruptcy, and made one of the safest and most profitable institutions of the country, is a monument to the skill and energy of Mr. Robb. A yet more signal evidence of his talents and perseverance is the establishment of gas-works at Havana, Cuba, which had previously been attempted unsuccessfully, by companies and individuals from Europe and America.

Meanwhile, the banking house of James Robb & Co., under Mr. R.'s immediate direction, has continued to increase in capital, business and character, and now ranks with the best institutions in the country.

Recently Mr. Robb has entered into a new field—that of politics—upon the very threshold, he appears not the mere politician, but a Statesman. As an earnest and eloquent advocate of State and city reforms, and an extensive system of internal improvements, designed to place Louisiana, and especially New Orleans, side by side with her sister States in the 'progress of the age,' he was nominated, and triumphantly elected, a representative from New Orleans to the Senate of Louisiana.

Already Mr. Robb has displayed distinguished ability as a public speaker, and his speeches show him a sagacious, far seeing politician.

It is seldom that such men as James Robb are willing to enter into political life—more rare than they are hailed with popular favor. Were it otherwise, our country would be more prosperous at home, honored abroad; and we hope that the people of his adopted city and State will continue to appreciate his talents and integrity, and his well directed efforts in their behalf, and when they can spare him from the councils of Louisiana, they will send him to adorn the councils of the nation.

The San Francisco Picayune gives a strange catalogue of Sunday sports in that city:—"Let's see—there were exhibited yesterday a bull and bear fight at the mission, at which three or four bulls were killed, as well as a horse, and several men were seriously injured; a number of boat races in the harbour; rows in the Union and on Pacific Wharf; two steamboat excursions; and in the evening, theatrical performance and a Tyrolean concert. What a staid and moral community we are becoming!"

The bite of a drunkard, it seems, is to be feared, like the bite of a snake. An officer in Ohio, who was bitten in the finger by a drunken man, as he was taking him to prison, has since died of the wound.

The introduction of the sewing-machine is beginning to excite the alarm, and, in some places, the indignation of tailors and seamstresses.

## Pleasures of Missionary Life.

In a letter to the New York Recorder, Mr. Shaw, a Missionary who lately went out to New Mexico, with his wife, gives a sketch of his journeyings, &c., which may serve to disabuse the minds of those who imagine that the Missionary has an easy life, and but few claims upon our sympathies. The following is an extract:—

"On the 18th of Sept. we started upon the plains; Mrs. Shaw being the only female in the company. For a few days we tho't it rather hard fare, but soon became quite satisfied, and enjoyed the trip much. We traveled from ten to twenty miles per day.—You must recollect that we travel with oxen and mules,—not by steamboats and railroads. A striking contrast, surely! but then it has its advantages. It gives a good opportunity for hunting; and the game is abundant. We can sometimes see two or three hundred huge buffaloes within gun-shot, and thousands within sight. Prairie-hens, ducks, and the finest of all, the antelope, are abundant. These furnish enticements which are not at all objectionable to a good appetite.—Wolves are very thick, and keep up a constant howling about camp at night; sometimes they are almost too neighborly. One night one came to my carriage and eat a portion of my harness, notwithstanding we were sleeping close by it. We met several parties of Indians, but they offered no hostility. Some part of the way, water and grass were very poor. Sixty miles was the longest distance that our animals were entirely destitute.

"We arrived at Santa Fe Nov. 14, having been on the plains eight weeks and two days. We had no rain during the time. A slight snow came upon us in the mountains, and made a few days of unpleasant traveling.—But we arrived in safety, with health much improved, and glad to find a resting-place for a few days in the family of brother L. Smith, who came a few months before us; and, strange to say, the first night we slept in a house for eight weeks, we took violent colds."

## The English Language.

Most of our readers probably are not aware of the great changes which have taken place in our language, since its first formation. The following are specimens of the Lord's Prayer at different periods:

1300. Fader our in hevenc, Hallowed be thy name, come thi kingdom, Thi wil be don as in hevenc and in erthe. Our uche, dayes, bred give us to day. And forgive us our dettes, as we forgive to our detters; lede us not into temptation, Bode delyvere us of yvel. Amen.

1379. Our fadyr that art in Havens. Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come to. Be thy will done in earth as in Havenc; Give to us to day our bred and other substanches; and forgif to us our dettes as we forgive to our detters; and leed us not into temptation. But deliver us from evel. Amen.

1526. O our futher which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Let thy kingdom come. Thy will be fulfilled as well in erthe as hit is in hevenc. Give ys this daye our daily breade. And forgive them which trespas vs. Leede vs not into temptation, but delyver vs from yvel. Amen.

1559. Our father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Let thy kingdom come. Thy will do done even in earth as it is in heaven. Gien us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our dettes as we also forgive our detters. And leed us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom the power and the glorie forever. Amen.

## Salaries in Virginia.

Governor,	\$5,000
Councillors, each,	1,000
Secretary of Commonwealth,	1,620
First Auditor,	2,000
Second Auditor,	2,000
Treasurer,	2,000
Register of Land Office,	2,000
President of Court of Appeals,	2,250
Each Judge,	2,500
Judges of General Courts,	1,500
Attorney General, besides fees and mileage,	1,000
Speaker of Senate, per day,	6
Speaker of House, per day,	8
Members, per day,	4
Clerk of Senate, per week,	50
Clerk of House, per week,	150
Sergeant-at-arms of each House, per week,	30
Doorkeepers, each per week,	25

## Opening Letters.

James Vassar, who was arrested about a year ago for opening letters in the Post Office, where he was employed in the capacity of a clerk, was on Monday morning sentenced by Judge Beets, of the United States District Court, to five years' imprisonment in the State Prison.

Elder Knapp, while preaching recently in Rockford, Illinois, observed many of his congregation sleeping.—He stopped in his sermon and requested the deacons to pass the contribution boxes, saying that he learned the society had not yet raised money enough to pay for the new bell, adding there were some there who knew how to use it to pay for their lodging, the usual price of which was twenty-five cents. About forty dollars were raised. He then finished his sermon.

When we are alone we have our thoughts to watch—in our families our temper, and in society our tongues.

## THE MIRROR.

"Praise where we can, and censure where we must."

MORGANTOWN, Va.  
Saturday...February 21, 1852.

## EASTERN AGENCY.

By Mr. C. PIERCE, No. 46, South Third st., Philadelphia, is one of our most obliging and attentive Agents.

E. W. CARR, Third street, opposite the Exchange, Philadelphia, is also our Agent for that City.

W. M. THOMPSON, at the Newspaper Agency, S. E. corner of Baltimore and Calvert streets, is our Agent for Baltimore.

## OTHER AGENTS.

D. M. AUVIL, Nesterville, Barbours co., Va.  
J. CALDWELL, P. M. Kingwood, Preston county, Va.

The Embargo removed!—a Letter from Richmond in three days!! and more expected!!!

We have, at length, been favored with a letter direct from Richmond, which we hasten to lay before our readers. We have been censured, at least by implication, for not giving legislative proceedings, when in fact we had none to give. Our exchange papers from the Eastern cities have been coming as regular as clock-work, and those from the West, as far as St. Louis, have seldom failed,—while the papers from Richmond, which is said to be the metropolis of our own State, make their appearance but semi-occasionally, and then seldom show their faces until they are a month old, more or less! We did receive a printed document from Squire Lemley, last week, which was quite cheering, as it gave reason to hope that he was still in the land of the living,—and it will afford us equal pleasure, at all times, to receive despatches, either written, printed or telegraphic, from Messrs. Wade and McDonald. We give this week No. 1 of a series of Letters from Richmond, which, we have reason to believe, will be followed up vigorously, and will afford much information that will prove interesting.

Legislative News is scarce.—Among the resolutions offered in the House of Delegates, on the 3d inst., was the following:

By Mr. Lemly.—For laying off the counties of the State into districts for working the county roads, and for the electing the Surveyors of said districts by the people therein, and fixing the compensation of said Surveyors.

Huntersville Burnt.—A paragraph has been going the rounds of the papers, that the town of Huntersville, Pocahontas county, Va., was recently destroyed by fire. The size of the town may be inferred by the following extract of a letter to the editor of the Putnam, O. 'Recorder,' written in Pocahontas county:

"Considerable damage was experienced last night in the town of Huntersville, where three store houses, one tavern, and one dwelling-house, were destroyed by fire. The damage is estimated at about fifty thousand dollars—but no loss of life."

Mr. Hook, a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature from Uniontown, is in a fair way to run up the ladder of popularity. He has introduced a bill providing for the abolishing of so much of the \$300 exemption law as prevents Printers from collecting their accounts. Success to his scheme! We have lots of newspaper debts over in Pa. that we should be glad to collect, "by Hook or by crook."

## The Land Warrant Bill Passed.

Hon. John L. Dawson, member of Congress from Fayette county, Penn. informs the editor of the Uniontown Genius that "the bill has just passed making Land Warrants assignable." We are not apprised of its having passed the Senate.

The Brownsville Free Press of Wednesday last states that the above bill has passed both Houses of Congress.

An outrageous Murder lately took place at Cumberland, Md. A difficulty had existed for some time between two young men, named Sprigg and Swan, and the latter arming himself with a gun, stepped up behind Sprigg, and shot him through the head! Swan has served in the Mexican war. He acknowledged the crime and did not try to escape. Perhaps he has not studied Shakespeare, who says:

"One murder makes a villain, Thousands a hero."

The Weather, during the past week, has been considerably mixed. A few inches of snow fell early in the week, followed by cold nights, and a little of the melting mood about mid-day. The river is too low for steamboat navigation.

## Another Fire in Clarksburg!

Extract of a Letter to the Editor.  
Clarksburg, Feb. 18, 1852.

Friend Siegfried,

We have had another fire here. Mr. Jos. P. Bartlett, however, is the only sufferer this time. On being driven from his tavern-house, in November, by the great fire, he temporarily occupied one of his back buildings, into which he had stowed all his beds and bedding, wearing apparel, &c. I learn that the fire was communicated from one of the stoves in the building to the flooring, and had made such progress, when discovered, that all efforts to save the building, or even its contents, were utterly unavailing. The alarm was given about 8 o'clock, when the citizens rushed en masse to the scene, in double quick time, and entered into battle with the devouring element with such system and energy that it was overcome without communicating to any other building, although several were in close proximity. While the fire was yet burning, Mr. Bartlett was engaged hands to construct another building on the smouldering site. How well he succeeded you may judge when I tell you that in passing this evening, I observed a building of very respectable dimensions almost entirely under roof. One knows scarcely which most to admire most, the energy and enterprize of the proprietor, or the expedition of the mechanics.

There is some talk of removing the trials of those charged with burning the town in Nov., to Parkersburg or Morgantown. Yours, &c.

J. H. POWELL.

## Late from California.

We are indebted to the polite attention of E. Tower, Esq., of this place, for the perusal of a letter from California, dated "Sacramento City, Jan. 13, 1852," from which we make the following extracts:

"This country is one of the most lovely in winter compared with yours; although you can see the snow-capped mountains in nearly every direction, yet I have seen nothing colder than a frost this winter; and up the river, where I am now running, the grass is shooting up in every direction, and the wild oats I know is 6 inches high, perfectly green; in short, it could be a lovely sight to you, if you could step out of your house this morning, and walk in the green grass, and feel the pure and sunny air that we are now enjoying. Some two weeks ago we had much rain, which made it unpleasant, of course, but the rains here are invariably warm, and now it is beautiful clear weather, which makes it quite cheerful.

"The business community complain very much now of hard times, and so they are for this country; but I think if you were to step out of Morgantown and walk up I street, in this place, some 12 or 14 squares, you would think your place quite a dull one.—Still the expenses of this place require large sales to make money; the expenses of any good business house here are from \$500 to \$1000 a month, and if a good house does not sell two thousand dollars worth in a day, he thinks the times rather hard.

"The miners are doing well generally; many are going home, and many, very many for their families, and scores arriving in every steamer from the States. There are now 2,000 passengers on the Isthmus who cannot get a passage for the present.

M. LITTLETON.

Thirty-two sleigh loads of the "fair daughters of America," formed part of a recent temperance procession in Albany. As the consequences of intemperance fall heaviest upon ladies, it is but natural that they should be most earnest in the temperance reform.

The question "why printers do not succeed in business as well as brewers?" was thus answered:

"Because printers work for the head and brewers for the stomach, and where twenty men have a stomach, but one has a head."

For the Mirror.

## "Still Harping on my Daughter."

MR. EDITOR:

I have understood that the estimate of 250 dollars, per annum, for educating a female pupil abroad, is considered extravagant by some. A little enquiry, however, will soon satisfy him who makes it, that this estimate is rather below, than above, what it ought to be. Having some interest in the matter, I have taken pains to ascertain the probable cost; and I am satisfied that no parent in Morgantown can send his daughter away to any female seminary of reputable character as a literary institution, for less than 250 dollars per year.

The charges at the Female Seminary at Georgetown, D. C., for tuition and boarding, are 274 dollars per year. Add to this books and stationery, to say nothing of extra clothing, and you must increase the sum to at least 300 dollars. To this must be added expenses of taking the pupil to and from school, which to a patron of that school, living in Morgantown, would be at least 75 dollars.

The annual expence of sending a daughter to Mrs. Meade's school at

Richmond, I have ascertained would be nearly 400 dollars per year.

From a statement which I have of terms of tuition, boarding, &c., at two schools in Philadelphia, I find that it would cost from 3 to 4 hundred dollars to send my daughter to one of them, independent of travelling expenses.

But it may be said that these are Eastern schools, and are located too far off—that good schools can be found nearer home, where the terms are more moderate. Take the Female Seminary at Washington, Washington Co., Pa., for instance. I have examined a statement furnished by a pupil of that school. The sum required for board, tuition and fuel, is 205 dollars per year, for each pupil. Now add to this books, stationery, extra clothing, and the expenses of travelling to and from that seminary, twice a year, and who will not say that the total will be less than 250 dollars?

I shall not repeat the pecuniary advantages to the community, of a flourishing Female Seminary in our midst. But I may appeal to every parent to ask himself how much he would prefer to have his daughter at home, under his own eye, and subject to his own authority, during that interesting period of her existence, when her mind and heart are receiving those impressions which shall fix her character for life. Moreover, unless something is speedily done to provide a suitable edifice, we shall be entirely without a public female school in our town; for it needs only a visit to the present building to convince any one that it will shortly be untenable. Indeed, I doubt whether it is not now unsafe—the second floor being propped up by a scantling to keep it from falling in.

What shall we say to the probability of soon having no public school at all for our daughters? What do the parents of Morgantown say to that? We now have excellent teachers. I understand that a small but well selected set of chemical and philosophical apparatus has been recently procured for the use of the Academy.—Shall we suffer these advantages to be lost? Shall we fail to secure a continuation of the services of Mr. Gregg and his lady? Animated, as they no doubt are, by a desire of being as extensively useful as possible, they could not be blamed for seeking a situation elsewhere, where they might accomplish greater good and receive a better reward for their labors.

It is true, if the Female Academy be discontinued, we may have private schools, as of old time,—a little squad here, and a little squad there,—wherever a room can be obtained large enough to stow away a dozen or two of our children. But no one will say that such means of instruction will meet the wishes of the people of Morgantown.

The result is, that we must build a new Academy, or send our daughters abroad; or, we must suffer them to grow up without education. Now, of every parent who has a correct conception of his duty to his children, I ask the question,—which of these things will you do.

It has been intimated that the Trustees of Monongalia (male) Academy will, probably, aid in the erection of a new building, if a disposition is manifested to push the enterprise forward, by private subscription. Indeed, I feel confident they will do something pretty handsome for us, if we go ahead.

Now such a building as ought to be erected, will cost from 3,500 to 4,000 dollars. An expenditure of this sum would put up a building, containing a sufficient number of halls and recitation rooms, and also several dormitories, which, in connection with the present dwelling, would accommodate 25 or 30 boarders, beside the family of the principal. Suppose, as citizens, we raise, \$1200 Take of the present Academy funds, 600 Value of old building, say 200 We thus raise, \$2,000 And leave invested 2500 dollars of the present Academy funds, equal to an annual interest of 150 dollars, to constitute a part of the salary of the principal of the Academy.

Suppose that the Male Academy were to appropriate the additional sum of 2,000 dollars (and I will say that by so doing, I believe they would give great satisfaction to the community at large,) it would constitute just the sum needed.

As a citizen, I am perfectly willing to subscribe one-twelfth of the 1200 dollars above proposed. I am very much mistaken if it would not be the most profitable investment I could make of that sum of money—even in a pecuniary sense. T.

## RICHMOND CORRESPONDENCE.

Number 1.

RICHMOND, Feb. 16, 1852.

To the Editor of the Mirror:

The old bachelor of 'sunny-side,' who throws a magic spell around every subject on which he writes,—I mean Washington Irving,—has the peculiar talent of writing beautiful things about nothing.

Your humble correspondent is not only deficient in that gift but also in giving interest to facts in themselves interesting; yet he will venture to bore your readers, and make himself ridiculous, notwithstanding 'a' that, as he half promised an occasional letter.

You, who live in the remote west, if you carefully read the papers, actually know more of the doings of this city, than if you resided here. You may pass a day in the Senate or the House of Delegates, and unless you have a favorable position in the House, your readers will have a better knowledge of the proceedings than the actual spectator. I cannot conceive how it is that a member of either body can do his duty and be absent half his time; yet perhaps it might be possible to name some who have not been in the House three days since the commencement of the session.

It has been remarked that in the recollection of no one, has there been an Assembly of such temperate men. There is not I believe a regularly intemperate member of either House. The great mass of the members are young men, ranging from 22 to 35, with an occasional gray head to hold the helm, among whom is the venerable Hairston, who was here in the year 1808. Craig, of Roanoke, is also an old man. The name of Robt. E. Scott is familiar to you. He is a singular looking man; and one would scarcely know what to make of him at first sight, but when he rises to speak and commences to 'bat his eyes,' you can see that the dull exterior contains a mind above buttons. If his hair were not silvered, one would suppose him to be 35, yet this young looking man is growing old. Goode, of Bedford, is the youngest member of the House: not yet 22.—He offered a resolution on Saturday for the erection of a statue to Jefferson, and made one of the most beautiful speeches on the subject it has been my fortune to hear, yet I think Virginia has, just now, other things to do than build monuments over the bones of her illustrious dead. It is said that the hogs are sleeping over and rooting up his clay. If such is the fact, it is more disgraceful to this immensely wealthy relatives than to the Commonwealth, as his statue is already ordered for the monument on Capitol square.

By this day year the people of Virginia will think of other matters than building monuments. The new Constitution compels this Legislature to provide a sinking fund to pay off the public debt, which fund will be over \$700,000 annually. It will also take over \$600,000 annually, to keep the Government in motion. These two items make \$1,300,000 to be raised yearly by taxation, and it must be done. The Constitution makes it obligatory. Extravagance, heretofore, has caused it, and let the people who pay the taxes out of their hard earnings, not put the responsibility on those who now have taken an oath to support the Constitution.

The Committee of Finance set every day till 12 o'clock, and after the House adjourns they sit till 10 at night. They are elaborating a system of taxation in accordance with the Constitution. It is an unpleasant task. What will the people of your county think when they learn that their taxes are doubled, as they inevitably will be;—and nearly every dollar for improvements in other parts of the State. True, the poor will be none the worse, for taxes will be levied according to the amount of property;—but if the rich don't "kick harder than Jeshurun," I am deceived. This is an unpleasant subject, and I will drop it for another time, when I can have more patience.

I doubt whether a dollar will be appropriated this session, except for the payment of the public debt, and the ordinary expenses of the government; yet every appliance will be brought to bear. The James river ditch wants a few more millions sunk in its stagnant pools; and every four-penny railroad from this city continues to invite the members of both Houses to take a ride on their roads, to see the beauty of the thing, free gratis, for nothing;—bad brandy and worse whiskey thrown in, and a "cold collection" at the end of the roads in the woods, as it is called here. If these Railroad Presidents desire to catch the votes of any unwary "Western alligators," they had better not carry them out through their old fields, pine barrens, oak forests ten feet high, broom hedge and clinkapins.

Mr. Buchanan, of Pa., the other day on a trip on the Danville road, remarked "if Virginia could not produce wheat with his county of Lancaster, she was pre-eminent in her crops of great men." It is well to remember that Mr. Buchanan is a candidate for the Presidency, and his stock here is nearly up to Virginia bonds; the latter 103½, the former at least 99. If George M. Dallas had not reached the city the day after Mr. B. (both being now here) the stock might have reached even a higher figure; but as it is the contest is as vigorous as between the bulls and bears of Wall street.

While speaking of the Presidency, I will add that I have just learned that

Gov. Johnson, of Va., is spoken of in New York and Pennsylvania, as a candidate for the Vice Presidency, the Governor being a native of the former State, it is thought will give strength to the ticket in that very uncertain climate of free riders and pseudo philanthropists. The old Col.'s indomitable pluck, and his success through life, would doubtless give strength to the Democratic ticket.

But I sat down to write of what has been done in the Legislature of Virginia, and like many persons in these latter days, (you and I excepted) I have wandered from my text; but as this is my first, you will please excuse it. I will try and furnish you a weekly letter, if you and your readers can bear such an opiate, and your compositors do not slumber on their cases. I have no time to study style, and if you do not make my hastily dashed off sentences welcome, why you will get the fewer of them.

From our Washington Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1852.

Dear Sir:

This is the day that all lovers make known their feelings to their sweet-hearts through the medium of what has been called from time immemorial, a Valentine. In my younger juvenile days, I took this word to mean something lovely, and that every one who received a Valentine, received a love-letter; but within a very short time I have learned that I was mistaken. The meaning of the word appears to be a medium through which our feelings are expressed to each other, whether of the tender passion or of contempt. For instance, if one of the fair sex should entertain a real affection for you (O! I beg your pardon sir, I mean no other person than your better half), she expresses her admiration of you by sending you a Valentine, couched in the most elegant, chaste and lovely language. If she entertains an opposite feeling, (which, may the powers forbid,) she will send you an image of an old crooked nosed, bandy-shanked, rum-colored customer, with sentiments to suit the picture, and permit you to draw your own conclusions. It is said that many a love match is made on St. Valentine's day, and if this be ordinarily true, how much more will it be so on the present occasion, when we reflect that this is Leap year, and that the ladies are not only privileged to make love to their opposite sex, but to propose. But as I did not intend to fill up this letter exclusively with the ladies, I will pass on.

The subject of non-intervention appears to be gradually taking hold of the business of the Senate, and will doubtless be handed over to the people in the shape of set speeches, until the end of the present session of Congress. Gen. Cass appears to have led off in this important question, and laid down the land marks for the Democracy. But this is a question that neither of the great political parties have the exclusive right to adopt as a party creed. It is a national question, full of interest to the whole American people, and if there is any certainty in judging the future by the past, the principle heretofore adopted and carried out by our Government, is certainly the one we should strictly adhere to. I am glad that Gen. Cass has made such a speech. I think it will have a tendency to check the principle of the "progressive democracy" that we sometimes see attempted to be imposed upon the unsuspecting mass, by the herds of demagogues that infest a certain nameless party in this country. Give me the old land marks, and such men as Clay, Cass, Webster and others to stand by them.

The House appears to be engaged principally in the investigation of private claims, and set but from four to five days in the week. This certainly should be a short session of Congress, as there appears to be nothing to detain it, of any importance.

The decision in the Gaines case has not yet been made, and considerable uncertainty and anxiety is felt by both parties, as it will require four justices out of the six sitting to reverse the judgment of the Court below.

A Committee of your Legislature has reported in favor of holding the election for Circuit Judges on the 4th Thursday of April next, and their duties to commence on the 1st July.—This appears to be ominous that the election for County Officers, members of the Legislature, &c., will not take place until the fall, and that the present Legislature intend taking their "time Miss Lucy," as that body meets biennially after the present session.

I have no further advices upon the lay-delegation question, particularly, but promise to keep you posted upon that point, because I believe if ever reform was needed either in Church or State, that is. I see that a meeting of the male members of the "oldest congregation," in Philadelphia, was held, at which a resolution was passed that they "did not at present approve of a Lay Delegation in the General and Annual Conferences." This is intended, I suppose, to put a quietus to the whole affair. But this cannot be, unless the fatters by which the laity of that church is now enchaind are a good deal stronger than I think they are. *Nous verrons.*

EL DORADO.

A country editor having received two gold dollars in advance, for his paper, says, that he "allows his child to play with the other children as usual."

Wonder if he lived over?